cating that food industries require less capital for producing unit value of output.

Ambient air quality standards

2160. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of ambient air quality standards prescribed for industrial pollutants under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 during 1981 to 1982 and relaxed standards prescribed in 1994;

(b) whether the Indian standards differ from similar ambient air quality standards for industrial pollutants followed in other industrially developed countries like USA etc.; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The details of ambient air quality standards prescribed in 1982 and the revised comprehensive standards notified in 1994 are given in the statement-I and II respectively. (*See* below)

(b) Ambient air quality standards in different countries are formulated on the basis of the prevailing local conditions, including meteorological factors, the health risks involved and impacts on vegetation and other environmental components. The 1994 ambient air quality standards notified in India are based on the studies carried out by different national and international bodies and are comparable to the international standards.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement-I

Ambient air quality standards prescribed in 1982

Area Category	Concentration, Microgramme per cubic meter			
	SPM	SO2	CO	NOx
A. Industrial and Mixed-use	500	120	5000	120
B. Residential and Rural	200	80	2000	80
C. Sensitive	100	30	1000	30

Whenever and wherever three consecutive measurements spaced by at least one week apart, or any three out of 10 consecutive measurements spaced by at least one week apart, are found to exceed limits specified above for the respective category, it would be considered adequate reason to institute regular weekly continuous monitoring and futher investigations.

Statement-II

Ambient air quality standards prescribed in 1994

Pollutant	Time weighted average	Concentration in ambient air (microgramme per cubic meter)		
		Industrial	Residential, Rural & other areas	Sensitive
Sulphur Dioxide (SO2)	Annual average*	80	60	15
	24 hrs.**	120	80	30
Oxides of Nitrogen (NOx)	Annual average*	80	60	15
	24 hrs.**	120	80	30
Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM)	Annual average*	360	140	70
	24 hrs.**	500	200	100
Respirable Particulate Matter (size less than 10 cm (RPM)	Annual average*	120	60	50
	24 hrs.**	150	100	75
Lead (Pb)	Annual Average*	1.0	0.75	0.50
	24 hrs.**	1.5	1.00	0.75
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	8 hrs.**	5.0	2.0	1.0
	1 hr.	10.0	4.0	2.0

*Annual Arithmetic mean of minimum 104 measurements in a year taken twice a week, 24 hourly at uniform interval.

**24 hourly/8 hourly values should be met 98% of the time in a year. However, 2% of the time, it may exceed but not on two consecutive days.

Note:

01. National Ambient Air quality Standard: The levels of air quality necessary with an adequate margin of safety to protect the public health, vegetation and property.

02. Whenever and wherever two consecutive values exceed the limit specified above for the respective category, it would be considered adequate reason to institute regular/continuous monitoring and further investigations.

03. The State Government/State Board shall notify the sensitive and other areas in the respective states within a period of six months from the date of notification of National Ambient Air Quality Standards.